

Mahakal Temple administration bans colors at premises for Holi

Ujjain: In a significant move to protect the sanctity and architectural integrity of Ujjain's holiest site, the Mahakaleshwar Temple administration has enforced a comprehensive ban on colors and gulas for the upcoming Holika festival on March 2 and 3. This strict directive covers the entire complex, including the Garbhagriha (Sanctum Sanctorum), Nandi Hall, and the sprawling Mahakal Lok corridor.

Zero-tolerance security measures

The administration has made it clear that no exceptions will be granted. Devotees, priests, temple staff, and even security personnel are strictly prohibited from carrying or spraying colors within the

Sanctity over celebration



premises. To ensure compliance, security teams will deploy rigorous screenings at all entrance gates.

Furthermore, the temple's advanced CCTV network will be monitored 24/7 to intercept pro-

hibited substances or specialized color-spraying equipment.

A symbolic herbal tradition

While public play is restricted, the spiritual essence of the festival remains intact through a controlled, symbolic celebration. The temple's Kothar branch has been tasked with providing exactly one kilogram of herbal gulas for each of the Trikal Aarti sessions. This sacred powder will be offered to Lord Mahakal exclusively by designated priests during the Bhasma and Shayan Aartis.

Authorities have urged all visitors to respect these safety protocols, ensuring that the "King of Ujjain" is honored in a dignified, secure, and environmentally conscious manner.

Gwalior sets eco-friendly precedent with Cow-Dung Holi



Gwalior: Embracing a sustainable shift in tradition, Gwalior is set to celebrate Holi with a powerful message of environmental conservation and social harmony. The district administration has launched a specialized campaign urging citizens to swap traditional firewood for Go-Kasht (cow-dung logs) during the Holika Dahan bonfires. This initiative, backed by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav,

aims to curb deforestation while promoting the sacred use of organic alternatives.

To ensure widespread adoption, local municipal bodies and panchayats will actively monitor public celebrations, encouraging residents to opt for herbal colors and prioritize water conservation. The administration is also appealing to the public to ensure the safety of animals and birds during the festivities.

In a unique move to foster community participation, organizations that successfully implement wood-free bonfires will be honored with official commendation certificates from the Chief Minister. By blending cultural fervor with ecological responsibility, Gwalior seeks to transform the festival of colors into a landmark event for brotherhood and "green" devotion, rewarding those who lead the charge in protecting the planet while honoring tradition.

Massive security blankets traditional Holi & Rangpanchmi Geer

Indore on high alert



Indore: As Indore prepares for its legendary Geer and Phag processions, the city administration has shifted into high gear. On Saturday, top police and administrative officials conducted an extensive foot march across the traditional route to finalize security and crowd management protocols for the upcoming Holi and Rangpanchmi festivities.

Aerial surveillance and strategic monitoring: To ensure an incident-free celebration, the Police Commissioner has man-

dated a multi-layered security grid. High-definition drone cameras and an integrated CCTV network will provide real-time feeds to a centralized control room. Strategically placed watchtowers atop high-rise buildings will be manned by armed personnel to monitor the sea of devotees from above. **Zero tolerance for miscreants:** A "Zero Tolerance" policy is in effect for rowdiness and harassment. While specialized female police squads and plainclothes officers will blend into the crowds to ensure safety, Rapid Response Teams remain on standby to neutralize any disruptions. The Commissioner warned that anyone engaging in intoxicated brawls or indecency would face immediate, stringent legal action.

Emergency corridors and traffic management: To prevent gridlock, a comprehensive traffic diversion plan is now active. Authorities have prioritized emergency corridors for ambulances and fire brigades, ensuring that relief work remains unhindered despite the massive turnout. Coordination meetings with event organizers have also finalized safety standards for color usage, ensuring that Indore's heritage remains vibrant yet secure for every citizen.

High Court Bar Association celebrates Vivid 'Phoolon ki Holi' in Jabalpur

Jabalpur: The Silver Jubilee Adarsh Auditorium of the Madhya Pradesh High Court Bar Association transformed into a vibrant sea of colors as advocates set aside their legal robes to celebrate their traditional "Phoolon ki Holi." In a celebration steeped in years of heritage, the evening commenced with a mesmerizing Radha-Krishna dance performance that captivated the audience, leading into a grand celebration where flowers replaced water and chemicals.

The event was graced by the presence of esteemed administrative judge Vivek Rusia, along with Justices Avnindra Kumar Singh, Devnarayan Mishra, Dwarkadhis Bansal, and Deepak Khot. Their participation added a layer of prestige to the festivities as they ex-



changed floral greetings and gulas with the legal fraternity.

Bar Association Secretary Paritosh Trivedi noted that the entire hall was blanketed in a stunning "carpet of flowers," symbolizing unity and social harmony. Under the guidance of President Dhanya Kumar Jain, senior advo-

ates and members shared traditional sweets and danced to the rhythmic beats of Phag folk songs. This annual gathering continues to serve as a vital cultural bridge, strengthening the bonds of brotherhood within the Jabalpur legal community through the joyous spirit of spring.

Heroin worth Rs 2.46 crore seized at Ratlam Toll, two arrested



Neemuch: In a high-stakes intercept against the illicit drug trade, the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) dismantled a major smuggling attempt at the Bilpank toll plaza in Ratlam district. Acting on pinpoint intelligence, a specialized team under the Deputy Narcotics Commissioner's direction ambushed a black vehicle traveling from Mandsaur toward Indore. During the rigorous

search of the intercepted car on the Neemuch-Mhow Highway, officials recovered 0.352 kilograms of high-grade heroin, commonly known as brown sugar, estimated to be worth approximately Rs 2.46 crore in the international market.

Two traffickers were apprehended on the spot as the CBN seized both the contraband and the vehicle used for transport. Following the raid, authorities confirmed that a formal case has been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. This operation marks a significant blow to the regional narcotics corridor, with investigators now probing deeper into the supply chain to identify the kingpins behind the consignment. The CBN has reaffirmed its commitment to a "zero-tolerance" policy against drug trafficking, signaling intensified surveillance across Madhya Pradesh's key transit routes.

Administration razes 30,000 Sq Ft encroachment of Mosque at Indore's MY Hospital



Indore: In a swift dawn operation on Saturday, the Indore district administration dismantled a massive illegal expansion of a mosque located within the premises of Maharaja Yashwantrao (MY) Hospital, the state's largest government medical facility. Armed with poklane machines, dumpers, and a heavy police contingent, the revenue and municipal teams demolished a sprawling boundary wall and a large tin shed that had encroached upon valuable hospital

land. **300 to 30,000 square feet:** The dispute traces back to 1967 when a modest 300-square-foot plot was allotted for soldiers to offer prayers. However, authorities allege the mosque committee gradually seized nearly 30,000 square feet of government land over the years. Following a two-year legal battle in the SDM court, an eviction order was issued, which was recently upheld by the High Court after it dismissed the committee's writ petition on Friday.

Land for life-saving expansion: While the mosque committee claimed that revenue records validate their possession, the administration moved quickly to enforce the court's decision. SDM Ghanshyam Dhangar confirmed that the reclaimed land will now be utilized to expand treatment facilities and improve amenities for impoverished patients.

Although the team faced minor protests, the presence of over a dozen police vehicles ensured the drive remained peaceful. In a final warning, the administration has granted a seven-day ultimatum for the removal of remaining residential structures, failing which the entire illegal setup will be razed to the ground.

Show-cause notice issued after minor student gives birth during Board Exam

Dhar: A shocking incident during the Class 10 mathematics board exam in Pithampur has led to stringent departmental action against school officials. A 17-year-old student, who was appearing for her examination at St. George Higher Secondary School, gave birth to a baby boy in the school washroom after seeking permission to leave the hall.

The Assistant Commissioner of the Tribal Affairs Department has issued show-cause notices to Kalpana Bhargava, Principal of Government Girls School, and Mukesh Parmar, Assistant Center Head. The administration slammed the officials for a "severe lapse in communication," noting that senior authorities were not briefed as per protocol. The notice highlights that the head of the institution failed to monitor the student's health, an oversight that has reportedly tarnished the department's image.

Jabalpur businessman booked in Rs 1.43 crore bank fraud

Jabalpur: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) has registered a case against a local businessman for allegedly defrauding Canara Bank of ₹1.43 crore by clandestinely selling a mortgaged property. The accused, Israr Khan, proprietor of G.K. Medicos, had secured multiple credit limits and term loans from the bank's Khova Mandi branch by pledging a 1,350-square-foot residential plot located in Bhartipur.

The deception came to light during a 2025 bank audit. While the original sale deed remained in the bank's possession, a fresh encumbrance certificate revealed that Khan had illegally carved out and sold a 560-square-foot portion of the mortgaged building to third parties, identified as Mohammad Rafiq and Mohammad Asif. By executing this unauthorized sale without the bank's consent, Khan secured an illegal financial gain while leaving the bank's substantial loan recovery in jeopardy.

Following a formal complaint by Rameshwar Dayal Sharma, Regional Manager of Canara Bank, the EOW conducted a preliminary probe that confirmed the



breach of trust. Investigators found that while Khan continued to utilize the loan amounts, he simultaneously transferred ownership of the bank's collateral. The EOW has now formalized the charges, focusing on the criminal conspiracy and financial misrepresentation used to bypass banking regulations.

9-month-old brutally raped, culprit seized

Whistleblower of Silwani silenced

Damoh: In a chilling act of depravity that has sent shockwaves through Madhya Pradesh, a nine-month-old infant was allegedly raped in the Nohra police station area. The heinous crime occurred late at night when the infant was briefly left unattended at home. Seizing the opportunity, a neighbor reportedly barged into the residence and committed the assault. Upon discovering the trauma, the distraught family rushed the child to the district hospital, where a medical team confirmed the violation under the heavy presence of police officials. Superintendent of Police Shrutikirti Somvanshi confirmed that a swift investigation led to the immediate arrest

of the accused. The police have registered a case under the stringent POC SO Act and relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Currently, a dedicated team of doctors, including the Civil Surgeon and specialists, is monitoring the infant's recovery, stating her condition is stable but requiring intensive care.

Senior officials, including the ASP and multiple station house officers, are overseeing the legal proceedings to ensure a fast-tracked trial. This brutal incident has sparked outrage across the district, with authorities promising the harshest possible legal retribution against the perpetrator to ensure justice for the innocent victim.

BSF gallops to victory at 44th All India Police Equestrian Meet



Gwalior: The Border Security Force (BSF) showcased its supreme mounted prowess by clinching the prestigious overall trophy at the 44th All India Police Equestrian Championship and Mounted Police Duty Meet. Held at the BSF Academy, Tekanpur, the national event concluded with a high-octane ceremony graced by Special Director General

Mahesh Kumar Agarwal. The competition served as a rigorous testing ground for coordination and skill among various Central Armed Police Forces and state police units. Over the course of the meet, riders displayed exceptional balance, speed, and courage across demanding disciplines, including show jumping, dressage, and tent pegging. The BSF Academy's world-class infrastructure and stables ensured peak performance for both riders and their equine partners. Individual brilliance also took center stage, with Major Deepanshu Sheoran of the Assam Rifles named Best Rider, while MC Tselvi P. Suganya of the Tamil Nadu Police earned the title of Best Women Rider. The coveted "Best Horse" honor was awarded to 'Horse Rifles' from the Assam Rifles.

Raisen DFO accused of jailing man for reporting timber mafia

Whistleblower of Silwani silenced



Raisen: In a chilling case of alleged administrative high-handedness, a young whistleblower in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district was reportedly beaten and jailed after exposing a massive illegal logging syndicate. Azad Khan, who complained to senior officials about the felling of



hundreds of high-value teak trees, found himself transformed from a complainant into the "prime accused" within hours of speaking out. **Retaliation over teak smuggling:** Azad Khan had alleged that forest officials were colluding with timber mafias to illegally harvest teak

worth crores from the Khamaria, Chauka, and Jamunia beats. According to his family, after he filed a formal complaint with the Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF), forest personnel allegedly raided his home in Silwani, ransacked his belongings, and seized legal documents. Shortly after DFO Pratibha Shukla was questioned by the media regarding the allegations, the department arrested Khan, claiming he was the mastermind behind the very theft he reported.

CCF promises fair inquiry: The incident has sparked outrage, with local residents alleging that illegal mining and deforestation have surged under the current DFO's tenure. While DFO Shukla initially reacted with hostility to queries before promising an internal probe, CCF Kshitij Kumar has stepped in to de-escalate the situation.

"A fair investigation will be conducted, and strict action will be taken against those found guilty," Kumar assured. As Azad's father pleads for justice, the case raises grave questions about the safety of citizens standing against corruption within the forest department.